WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A data storage system including two or more storage devices that are
2   remotely coupled to each other, comprising:
3   at least two host devices coupled together by a network interface;
4   at least two data transfer interfaces, each of which corresponds to one of the
5   host devices;
6   at least two storage devices, each of which is coupled to one of the host
7   devices, and which are coupled to each other by a remote copy interface, and which have
8   duplicated determining volumes respective; and
9   a determination function of using the determining volumes in competition for
10   an exclusive usage right among said host devices when a failure occurs in the network
11   interface or the host device.
12

1   2.   The data storage system according to claim 1, further comprising:
2   an exclusive control function that controls the determining volumes to
3   determine one of the host device exclusively.
4

1   3.   A data storage system including at least two storage devices remotely
2   coupled to each other, comprising:
3   at least two host devices coupled by a network interface to each other, and
4   having respective paired volume control software;
5   at least two data transfer interfaces, each of which correspond to one of the
6   host devices;
7   at least two storage devices, each of which is coupled to one of the host
8   devices, and which are coupled to each other by a remote copy interface, and which have a
9   commonly-used paired volume made by the remote copy interface;
10   a first function for forwarding a reserve command issued from one of the host
11   devices to exclusively use the paired volume, by way of said paired volume control software,
12   toward the storage device; and
13   a second function for receiving a normal end response from the storage device
14   corresponding to the reserve command, for issuing a command for controlling the paired

15   volume toward the storage device, and for issuing a transition command for changing an

16   attribute of said paired volume;

17   wherein the data storage system determines the host device that is received

18   with the normal end response, as only one host device to access the paired volume.